



**Congressman Dave Reichert**  
**Washington's 8th Congressional District**

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**REICHERT PRAISES END OF DEATH TAX**

*House passes Death Tax Repeal Permanency Act of 2005*

**WASHINGTON, DC**—U.S. Rep. Dave Reichert today praised House action to bury the death tax permanently. The *Death Tax Repeal Permanency Act of 2005* simplifies the tax code and makes progress towards a tax policy that encourages economic expansion rather than stifling it.

"I am pleased that the House took action today to remove this unfair tax," said Reichert. "Death should not be a taxable event. Permanently removing this tax means simplifying a tax code that makes most of our heads spin, while removing a hindrance on economic growth."

"America's small business owners work hard—too hard to be punished by complex, outdated tax codes," continued Reichert. "The death tax hampered family farms and enterprises across the nation simply because their businesses were wrapped up in a relative's estate. The very people wealth redistribution was intended to aid were punished by this tax!"

"Ending the death tax today enables small businesses, the backbone of our economy, to expand without fear, to add jobs rather than funnel money into expensive estate planning. Today we buried the death tax and lifted a weight off America's small, family-owned businesses shoulders."

The Death Tax is estimated to cost the American economy up to 250,000 jobs annually.<sup>1</sup> Small business owners constitute over 99 percent of all business owners, and nearly 9 out of 10 of these small businesses favor repeal of the death tax<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>[1]</sup> The Heritage Foundation, August 23, 2004

<sup>[2]</sup> National Federation of Independent Businesses recent survey

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